



October, 2018

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## Set Your Students Up for Success with Pairs and Groups

I love the buzz (roar? rumble?) of a classroom full of **engaged** students **using English** together in pairs or groups! It's music to my ears!

Check out [this month's video](#) about classroom management tips that will help you use **pair and group work** successfully in classes of any level and any size!



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## The Student-Centered Classroom by Leo Jones



[The Student-Centered Classroom](#) is an excellent, short, very practical book about how to maximize **student talk time** and minimize **teacher talk time**. This month, we are focusing on **Chapters 1 and 2**. We'll dive into other chapters in the coming months. Enjoy!

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## Practical Strategies for Using Group and Pair Work

- [Pair and Share: 14 Ideas](#)
- [Pair or Group? What's Better for the Learner?](#)
- [8 Teaching Tips for Effective Pair and Group Work](#)



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## Continuing Education Opportunities

*These opportunities all count towards your 6 hours of Continuing Education!*

### **AZ-TESOL Conference: Cultivating Community with AZTESOL (8 hrs)**

The TESOL state-wide conference will bring together teachers and researchers working with students of all ages and backgrounds in various English language acquisition settings. Participants share resources and best practices for working in refugee education, intensive immersion, adult education, and community programs. October 12-13, Mesa Community College Red Mountain Campus. Register online: <http://aztesol.org/> (\$75 for volunteers and scholarships available)

### **Strategies for Teaching New Readers from Refugee Backgrounds (6 hrs)**

Learn about best practices for helping students with emerging literacy develop their listening and speaking skills, as well reading and writing skills. Friday, 10/26, 9-3, Literacy Connects (200 E. Yavapai)

[RSVP here](#)

### **Series: Wordless Books for English Language Learners (2-4 hrs)**

Come learn about how to use wordless picture books to engage all levels of ELAA learners in low-stress, creative communicative reading and writing activities. Attend 1 or both: Wednesday, 10/31, 10-12 and/or Monday, 12/17, 2-4, Literacy Connects (200 E. Yavapai)

[RSVP here](#)

### **Grammar for Communication (1.5 hrs) – Presented by Laurel Pollard, Classroom Teacher, International Teacher Educator, and Author**

How can we embed grammar instruction in lessons that help students practice real-life language? Come learn about engaging strategies for teaching real-life grammar that will help students in their daily lives.

Friday, 11/9, 3:00-4:30, Literacy Connects (200 E. Yavapai).

[RSVP here](#)

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## Tutor of the Month: Nicki Bertenshaw

### Where are you from & how long have you been an ELAA tutor?

*I was born in Santa Fe, New Mexico, and raised in Albuquerque, NM. I moved from Albuquerque to Tucson in 2014. I began working for ELAA the following spring of 2015. I've worked both semesters each year and most summers.*



### What is your favorite part of being an ELAA tutor?

My favorite part of being an ELAA tutor is watching people get a jump start. Many adults are anxious to learn, to feel they are part of the community, to be good citizens, to raise their children well. They work hard at learning; they laugh a lot, they persevere in spite of the odds many of them encounter. They're wonderful students.

### Describe an inspiring story or person from your class.

I had one young man who continued up the ladder of educational success by tutoring for ELAA and helping others from Mexico (former ELAA tutor, Alejandro Trujillo). I now have his relatives in his class. One woman in her mid-forties cared for disabled people for years when she came to this country. She now has her own home for the disabled. She continues to serve her community. I've seen many adults manage to get a GED, become citizens, take intensive English classes, go to community college, and find jobs. They all make friends and enjoy the classes.

### Share a tip or example of a class activity that has been successful for you.

*Because I have a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, I find it important to know where the students are academically when they enter the class, to know if they master each segment of instruction, and to know their capabilities at the end of the class. I mix pre and post testing with daily instruction and activities so students are not stressed about performance but are moving toward a goal.*



## Get Out the Vote

Election season is upon us and November will be here before we know it! **Voter turnout is essential** to our democracy. Check out [www.arizona.vote](http://www.arizona.vote) to find valuable resources available in English and Spanish to **share with your students** (or use yourself!) On this

website, you can:

- Register to vote
- Double check registration status (are you registered? Is your address correct?)
- Learn about how to vote
- Find polling places
- Find early voting locations
- Learn about candidates

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## ELAA Quick Tip: Taking Photos

Many ELAA tutors like to photograph special class events. If you are taking photos for your own memories, snap away!



However, if you plan to **share** photos on **social media**, you must have students read and sign this [Media Release](#). There is also a copy of this in your purple folder and it's **easy** to use!

1. Explain that you would like to **share** the photos.
2. Explain that if students are okay with photos being shared, they can **sign**. If they do not want their photo shared, they should **not sign**.
3. Snap your photos! Make sure to share photos that **only include** the students who have **signed** the release.
4. **Share** your photos with us! We love to see them! You can **bring us** a paper copy of the Media Release or email us a photo of it.

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## Earn Continuing Education Hours for Reading *ELAA Connections!*



Click [here](#) to let us know what stuck with you from this month's ELAA Connections!

Each response will count for 1 hour of Continuing Education to help meet your goal of 6 CE hours per year. We love being a part of this community of lifelong learners!

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## Thank You to our Supporters!

[Women's Foundation of Southern Arizona](#) : We are grateful for a third year of funding for our amazing Women RISE program and are proud to be a recipient of the Women's Foundation Annual Grant this year.

[City of Tucson](#): Thank you for your important investment in our adult learners.



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### Quick Links

[Tutor Resources](#)

[Lending Library](#)

[Tutor Forms](#)

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